**LEGISLATIVE MONITORING**

**for July 2014**

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| **Legislative act** | **Status (date of approval/further consideration)** | | **Short overview** |
| **LAWS** | | | |
| [***Law of Ukraine “On amending the Law of Ukraine “On legal status of foreigners and stateless persons” regarding grounds for stay on the territory of Ukraine for foreigners and stateless persons” of 19 June 2014 No. 1539-VII***](http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/1539-18) | Entered into force on 19 July 2014 | Amendments relate to:  - refinement of terminology of the Law and aligning it with legislative acts currently in force;  - defining the categories of persons who can be issued temporary residence permit without receiving work permit;  - refinement of the grounds for legal stay on the territory of Ukraine for foreigners and stateless persons, namely professional sportsmen, actors and art workers who work in Ukraine according to their profession. | |
| [***Draft Law of Ukraine “On amending certain legislative acts of Ukraine” (regarding functioning of the state employment service)***](http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_2?pf3516=4808&skl=8) *(No. 4808 of 5 May 2014, Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine)* | Sent to the President for signing on 24 July 2014 | The draft Law brings back the system of governance in the sphere of employment as it was before 1 January 2013. These changes were made due to liquidation by the [resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 5 March 2014 No. 90](http://zakon4.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/90-2014-%D0%BF) of the State Employment Service as a central executive body. | |
| [***Draft Law of Ukraine “On amending the Law of Ukraine “On legal status of foreigners and stateless persons” (regarding stimulation of investment activity in Ukraine)***](http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=51544) *(No. 4202а of 1 July 2014, MP V.M.Pynzenyk, MP І.О.Hryniv, М.М.Ionova)* | Sent to the MPs for review on 3 July 2014 | According to the proposed amendments foreigners and stateless persons whose gross annual salary in Ukraine exceeds EUR 60,000 are issued temporary residence permit for the period of validity of their work contract in Ukraine regardless of the period of validity of their work permit.  The authors expect that the draft Law will help to eliminate obstacles associated with issuance of work permits for foreigners, to simplify procedures and improve business conditions for foreign investors, stimulate investment activities in Ukraine. | |
| [***Draft Law of Ukraine “On amending certain legislative acts of Ukraine” (regarding grounds for acquisition and cessation of citizenship of Ukraine)***](http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=51630) *(No. 4242а of 3 July 2014, MP М.Y.Holovko, MP Y.А.Mykhalchyshyn, М.R.Lopachak)* | Sent to the MPs for review on 7 July 2014 | The goal of this draft Law is to ensure cessation of citizenship of Ukraine for committing crimes related to infringement of the territorial integrity of Ukraine, treason against the State, subversion, espionage if there is a court’s judgment which entered in force. The draft introduces a new ground for admission into citizenship of Ukraine – through Ukrainian ethnic origin. | |
| [***Draft Law of Ukraine “On amending certain legislative acts of Ukraine regarding cessation of citizenship of Ukraine by persons who committed crimes against national security of Ukraine”***](http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=51667) *(No. 4262а of 7 July 2014, MP V.А.Korolyuk)* | Sent to the MPs for review on 9 July 2014 | A new type of additional punishment for citizens of Ukraine is added to Chapter I of the Special Part of the Criminal Code of Ukraine “Crimes against national security” – cessation of citizenship of Ukraine. | |
| [***Draft Law of Ukraine “On amending certain legislative acts of Ukraine regarding declaring one’s belonging to foreign citizenship”***](http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=51858) *(No. 4398а of 30 July 2014, MP М.D.Katerynchuk)* | Sent to the MPs for review on 4 August 2014 | According to the proposed amendments governmental officials will be required to annually declare their belonging/non-belonging to foreign citizenship. In case of acquisition of foreign citizenship they will be required to inform about this fact.  In parallel, the draft establishes criminal responsibility for violation of these rules.  The aim of the draft is to prevent cases when governmental officials hold any citizenship apart from citizenship of Ukraine. | |
| [***Draft Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine “On stimulation of expansion of broadcasting of Ukrainian TV channels abroad”***](http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=51560) *(No. 4213а of 2 July 2014, MP Y.Y.Stets)* | Submitted by the committee for consideration on 25 July 2014 | The draft Resolution contains measures for compiling by the State Committee for Information Policy in cooperation with the leading private TV channels an information bulletin with a list of the Ukrainian TV channels who agreed for broadcasting of their uncoded signal which can be received abroad. It also contains samples of application forms for a channel to be broadcasted in hotels and foreign cable networks.  These measures will help Ukrainians residing abroad as well as travelers, and other people speaking Ukrainian and Russian to obtain trustworthy information about Ukraine. | |
| [***Draft Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine “On ban to enter the territory of Ukraine for citizens of the Russian Federation, cultural workers who supported military aggression of Russia, unlawful occupation and annexation of the AR Crimea”***](http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=51695) *(No. 4277а of 10 July 2014, MP О.V.Lyashko)* | Sent to the MPs for review on 15 July 2014 | The draft recommends to the Security Service of Ukraine to issue a decision on entry ban to 518 Russian citizens, cultural workers who publicly supported Russian President Putin’s policy regarding military aggression against Ukraine, unlawful occupation and annexation of the Crimea. The list of the mentioned persons is annexed to the draft Resolution. | |
| [***Draft Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine “On the Recommendations of the Parliamentary hearings on the topic “Defensive ability of Ukraine in XXI century: challenges, threats and ways to overcome them”***](http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=51852) *(No. 4393а of 30 July 2014, MP V.М.Lytvyn, MP А.К.Kinakh, MP О.І.Kuzmuk)* | Adopted on 12 August 2014 | Participants of the Parliamentary hearing recommended:  - to the President of Ukraine, *inter alia*, to designate a government agency entrusted with the constitutional function of the sate border defense, and to allocate to this agency appropriate resources for fulfilling this function;  - to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, *inter alia*, to accelerate implementation of engineering works on enforcing the state border and to immediately allocate the necessary funds. | |
| [***Draft Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine “On amending Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine “On approval of the regulations on passport of a citizen of Ukraine and on passport of a citizen of Ukraine for travelling abroad” regarding validity of passports of the citizens of Ukraine who reside on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine”***](http://w1.c1.rada.gov.ua/pls/zweb2/webproc4_1?pf3511=51856) *(No. 4396а of 30 July 2014, MP L.Y.Myrymskyy, MP V.А.Hrushevskyy)* | Sent to the MPs for review on 4 August 2014 | According to current legislation passport of a citizen of Ukraine becomes invalid if a holder does not apply for inserting a new photograph at age of 25 and 45.  Ukrainian citizens residing on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine cannot apply to the competent authorities with the view to renew their photograph in passport.  At the same time invalid passport prevents a holder to perform legal deeds.  This draft Resolution will eliminate such obstacles for residents of the Crimea. | |
| **OTHER LEGAL ACTS** | | | |
| [***Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 4 June 2014 No. 195 “On the Interethnic Amity Council”***](http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/195-2014-%D0%BF) | Entered into force on 4 July 2014 | The newly established Council is an advisory body attached to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine whose main tasks are:  (i) facilitation of coordination of the government agencies’ actions in the sphere of ethno-national policy, protection of the rights of ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples;  (ii) preparation of recommendations concerning development and implementation of the state ethno-national policy aimed at observance of the rights of ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples, maintaining interethnic amity in Ukrainian society, prevention of interethnic conflicts, discrimination based on racial, ethnic, language and religious grounds, improvement of relevant legislation.  Among the Council’s members are the Government Commissioner for ethno-national policy, who is the Deputy head of the Council, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs, representatives of non-governmental organisations of ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples (by choice). | |
| [***Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 25 June 2014 No. 213 “On securing temporary accommodation for families who moved from the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol”***](http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/213-2014-%D0%BF) | Entered into force on 3 July 2014 | The regional administrations and the Kyiv city administration were allocated UAH 25,166,190 with the view to provide financial aid for temporary accommodation for families who moved from the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.  Procedure for use of these funds is also approved. According to it the funds shall be used for payment of financial aid to the mentioned families for them to settle at health resorts and holiday centers, social protection centers, hostels and hotels. | |
| [***Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 2 July 2014 No. 219 “On approval of the Regulation on the State Registration Service of Ukraine”***](http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/219-2014-%D0%BF) | Entered into force on 5 July 2014 | The resolution approves the statute of the State Registration Service, a central executive agency which, *inter alia*, implements state policy on registration by the State of civil status acts and maintains and administers the State register of civil status acts. | |
| [***Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 2 July 2014 No. 618-r “On amending the decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 4 December 2013 No. 958”***](http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/618-2014-%D1%80) | Entered into force on 2 July 2014 | The Implementation protocol between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Estonia to the Agreement between Ukraine and the European Community on the readmission of persons was approved in December 2013 and Head of the State Migration Service of Ukraine M.Kovalchuk was empowered to sign it.  Since S.Radutnyy was later appointed to the office of the Head of the State Migration Service respective amendments were made in the Government’s decree regarding signing of the Implementation protocol. | |
| [***Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 2 July 2014 No. 620-r “On signing the Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Belarus regarding approval of the Regulation on the demarcation of the state border between Ukraine and the Republic of Belarus”***](http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/620-2014-%D1%80) | Entered into force on 2 July 2014 | By this decree the draft Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Belarus regarding approval of the Regulation on the demarcation of the state border between Ukraine and the Republic of Belarus was endorsed and Special Envoy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Leonid Osavolyuk was empowered to sign the mentioned Agreement.  The Agreement was signed in the city of Chernihiv on 30 July 2014. It approves procedures for marking the common state border and regulates operation of the joint Ukrainian-Belarusian demarcation commission. The leaders of the two delegations reassured that during the demarcation of the Ukrainian-Belarusian border they will hold on tight to the line of the state border defined in the 1997 Agreement on the state border. | |
| [***Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 17 July 2014 No. 655-r “On endorsement of the draft Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of Romania on the local border traffic”***](http://zakon4.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/655-2014-%D1%80) | Entered into force on 17 July 2014 | The endorsed draft Agreement envisages simplified procedure for border crossing by residents of the near-border regions of Ukraine and Romania who live within 30 km from the common state border.  Residents of the near-border zone will also receive free-of-charge permits for simplified border crossing with the right to stay in the near-border zone of the other state for 90 days after each border crossing.  Signing of this Agreement will facilitate traveling conditions for Ukrainian citizens to Romania under the local border traffic regime as the Romanian citizens already have the right to enter Ukraine without visas for the period of 90 days under the EU-Ukraine Visa Facilitation Agreement. | |
| [***Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 18 July 2014 No. 653-r “On issuing visas for entering Ukraine in connection with the air crash of the plane Boeing-777-200 of the air carrier “Malaysia Airlines” which had place on 17 July 2014 in the Donetsk region”***](http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/653-2014-%D1%80) | Entered into force on 18 July 2014 | Visas for foreigners and stateless persons traveling to Ukraine in connection with the air crash are issued without charging consular fees. | |
| [***Order of the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine “On amending the Procedure for apostilling by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine official documents to be used on the territory of other states and for preparing by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine notarised documents for further consular legalisation” of 21 July 2014 No. 1176/5 registered by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on 22 July 2014 under No. 850/25627***](http://zakon2.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0850-14) | Entered into force on 1 August 2014 | The present amendments were made with the view to improve timescales for processing documents submitted for apostilling or for preparing notarised documents for further consular legalisation.  Apart from that, requirements to prove kinship in cases when documents are submitted by family members of a person in whose name the documents are issued were lifted. | |